data to BICP for assessment in support of their proposal;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal under consideration and justification in support thereof;

(c) whether increase in the cost is mainly because of old washeries and the need for setting up new washeries; and

(d) what is the total number of washeries in operation in Coal India Limited, how many are old requiring modernisation alongwith total requirement of funds for modernisation and setting up of new washery projects with the phasing of the programme ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) and (b) Prices for different grades of coal are fixed by the Central Government from time to time on the basis of norms devised by Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP). These norms may also need to be revised after some time. Recently BICP have undertaken a fresh study on coal prices and coal companies have submitted cost data and other information asked for by the Bureau for the study.

(c) In computing the cost of production of washed coal maintenance cost of old washeries has to be taken into account. Since nationalisation Coal India Limited (CIL) have constructed the following new washeries :

Sudamdih Moonidih, Barora and Mahuda Washeries in Bharat Coking Coal Limited, (BCCL), Rajrappa Washery in Central Coalfields Limited (CCL).

Besides, the following washeries are under construction :

1. Madhuban Washery in BCCL.
2. Kedla Washery in CCL.

(d) The total number of washeries in operation is 15. Out of these, 11 washeries need modernisation and funds requirement for modernisation is Rs. 150 crores (approx). Completion schedule for new coking coal washeries under construction and the total requirement of funds for construction of these washeries are as follows :

Name of Washery	Approximate Fund requirement (Rs. Crores)	Date of completion
1. Madhuban . . .	60	March 94
2. Kedla	20	Revised cost estimate is yet to be approved

In addition, three more non-coking coal washeries, namely Bina, Piparwar and Kalinga are being set up.

Illegal Mining operation by Eastern Coalfields Limited

981. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI :

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Eastern Coalfields Limited are carrying out mining operations without taking permission of the D.G. Mines Safety and the concerned District Magistrate; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) and (b) No mining operation is carried out by Eastern Coalfields Limited without the permission of Directorate General of Mines Safety. Permission of District Magistrate is not required. Only an intimation is required to be sent to the District Magistrate about mining operations being carried out and this is duly being done.

Danger faced by Raniganj township

982. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Raniganj township is in danger due to unscientific mining operations;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ? and

(c) what concrete steps have been taken so far by Government to save the township from danger ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) and (b) Problems of land subsidence, mainly exist in the Raniganj Coalfield of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., due to unscientific exploitation of coal during pre-nationalisation days. 45 locations in4 Asansol-Raniganj area of West Bengal have been identified as unsafe areas based on the declaration of Director General of Mines Safety, Govt. of West Bengal and the areas listed by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute in the Master Plan of Raniganj Coalfield.

(c) With a view to checking the growth of habitation over unsafe areas, the Govt. of West Bengal had passed legislation in 1979 prohibiting construction in such unsafe areas. There is no proven method of stablising inaccessible, water-logged, old abandoned workings of Raniganj Coalfields. Eastern Coalfields Limited, has however, developed through Research and Development, a system of hydropneumatic method of stowing for stabilising water-logged, inaccessible workings and at present a part of the Raniganj township has been taken up for stabilisation under the supervision of an 'Apex Monitoring Committee' constituted by the State Govt. of West Bengal and Coal India Limited. Necessary remedial measures are taken by the management of ECL to shift the affected persons due to subsidence as and when required.

Foreign Collaboration in Coal Mining

983. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : *Will the Minister of* COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what are the projects undertaken with foreign collaboration for coal mining;

(b) the total amount involved in such collaborations in terms of foreign exchange and its equivalent in Indian rupee;

(c) what is production target of coal for the next three years;

(d) the actual production achieved during the last three years; and

(e) the cost of production of coal per metric tonne for the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) The following on-going coal projects are presently under implementation with foreign collaboration :—

Country	Projects	
Russia . . .	1 Nigahi opencast (Northern Coalfields Limited)	3 Jhanjra underground (Eastern Coalfields Limited)
	2 Khadia opencast (Northern Coalfields Limited).	4. Modernisation of Patherdih washery (Bharat Coking Coal Limited).
France . . .	1. Kottadih underground (Eastern Coalfields Limited).	2. GPK-10&8 Inclines, (Singareni Collieries Company Limited).
Canada . . .	Rajmahal opencast (Eastern coalfields Limited)	
Australia . . .	Piparwar opencast (Central Coalfields Limited).	
Germany . .	1. Ramagundam-II opencast (Singareni Collieries Company Limited).	2. Bina Deshaling Plant (Northern Coalfields Limited).
UK . . .	1. GDK-11A 2. GDK-9A Extn. (Vakilpalli Block 'A') and	3. GDK-10A projects of (Singareni Collieries Company Limited).